(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken against those guilty owners of kiosks by the Railways against whom complaints of violation of conditions have been received?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) The procedure followed for awarding kiosks like catering stall and trolleys at railway stations by Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) and Zonal Railways is transparent. While Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) follows two packet tender system for awarding all contracts, zonal railways follow the method of selection by a committee of officers comprising of Commercial, Finance and one from any other department.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Action like counseling, warning, imposing of penalty, closure of stall/kiosk for specific period and termination of licence etc. is taken whenever complaints were substantiated for act of violation of conditions.

Direct train from Lucknow to Goa

†1693. SHRI BANWARI LAL KANCHHAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any facility of direct train from Lucknow in Uttar Pradesh to Goa is not available;

(b) whether Government would consider on extending the route of weekly train from Lucknow to Pune upto Goa;

(c) if not, whether Government would consider on attaching one coach of Pune Express with Mangla Express at Jhansi; and

(d) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir. There is no direct train between Lucknow and Goa.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. There is no such proposal at present.

(d) Does not arise.

Construction of rail routes

1694. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether construction of new rail routes has been finalized in the country for the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the total length of new rail routes proposed to be constructed in the country particularly in Sikkim State during this Plan; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) the total amount proposed to be spent on construction of rail routes in Sikkim State during the said Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Taking up work of new lines is an ongoing process based on justification and demands as per criteria prescribed by National Transport Policy Committee (1980). No Plan has been finalized separately for the Eleventh Five Year Plan.

(c) and (d) It is proposed to complete 2,000 kms of new lines out of ongoing new line projects during the Eleventh Five Year Plan period. No project is sanctioned in Sikkim State However, a proposal for new line from Sivok to Rangpo (52.70 kms) at an estimated cost of about Rs. 1300 crore has been processed and sent to Planning Commission for 'in principle' approval. The work would be taken up as and when requisite clearances are obtained from the competent authority.

Public-private investment in modernisation of Railways in Tamil Nadu

1695. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Railways alongwith private sector have planned to invest in the railway modernisation besides other projects during Eleventh Plan period;

(b) if so, the concrete programme of action plan prepared by the Railways;

(c) the amount likely to be invested for the projects in Tamil Nadu;

(d) whether all pending proposals of the State of Tamil Nadu would be undertaken; and

(e) if so, the time by when the amount in respect of Tamil Nadu likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) The projected requirement of funds for investment in Railways plan for Eleventh Five Year Plan including investment through Public-Private Partnership is Rs. 2,51,000 Crores.

(b) The areas which have been identified for possible execution through Public-Private Partnership include commercial development of land, development of passenger/freight terminals, container services, loco and wagon manufacturing, logiestics parks and budget hotels.

(c) Taking into account new projects proposed in Budget 2008-09, the projects in Tamil Nadu entail about Rs. 6500 Crores for completion.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Sanctioned projects are being progressed as per availability of resources and funds allocated in the Budget.

Promotion of Punjabi language in Railways

1696. SHRI TARLOCHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the languages being used on all railways platform on all railways stations located in Haryana;